

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 18559 291225Z

50

ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 DODE-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-02 PRS-01 DRC-01

SPC-03 /059 W

----- 112783

R 290920Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8596

S E C R E T BANGKOK 18559

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, TH

SUBJECT: US FORCE LEVELS IN THAILAND

1. AT THAI INITIATIVE COMUSMACTHAI, GENERAL MELLEN, AND POMIL COUNSELOR MET NOVEMBER 27 WITH GENERAL KRIANGSAK, DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF SUPREME COMMAND, FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS REGARDING US FORCE LEVELS IN THAILAND.

2. GENERAL KRIANGSAK OPENED THE DISCUSSION BY STATING THAT HE WAS UNDER PRESSURE TO SHOW PROGRESS IN THE MILITARY NEGOTIATIONS FROM TWO SIDES: (A) THE STUDENTS, INCLUDING A DELEGATION WHICH HAD CALLED ON HIM A FEW DAYS BEFORE, WHO REFLECTED AN APPARENTLY SINCERE FEAR THAT THE US MIGHT, THROUGH ITS MILITARY PRESENCE, EFFECT A "COUNTER REVOLUTION" WHICH WOULD RESTORE A MILITARY GOVERNMENT TO POWER IN THAILAND; AND (B) FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND OTHER CIVILIAN AGENCIES REPRESENTED IN THE CABINET WHO DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE NEED TO RETAIN SUCH A HIGH LEVEL OF US FORCES. KRIANGSAK INDICATED THAT SOME TOKEN WITHDRAWALS AT LEAST WOULD BE A WELCOME PALLIATIVE TO DEFLECT THESE PRESSURES.

3. KRIANGSAK STATED, HOWEVER, THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE US WAS NOT YET PREPARED TO WITHDRAW FORCES BECAUSE OF OUR CONTINUING

SECRET

PAGE 02 BANGKO 18559 291225Z

COMMITMENT TO STABILIZE THE SITUATION IN INDOCHINA. THEREFORE

HE PROPOSED THAT WE AGAIN REVIEW TOGETHER THE MILITARY AND POLITICAL SITUATION IN INDOCHINA AND PROVIDE HIM A BASIS FOR REPORTING TO THE CABINET THAT THE DISCUSSIONS WERE CONTINUING AND THAT THE STRATEGIC SITUATION IN INDOCHINA STILL REQUIRED MAINTENANCE OF THE US FORCES AT THEIR PRESENT LEVELS.

4. WE HAVE PROVIDED KRIANGSAK WITH CLASSIFIED INTELLIGENCE BRIEFS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR HIS USE IN PREPARING SUCH A REPORT, WHICH WE EXPECT WOULD GO TO CABINET AS EARLY AS DECEMBER 4. WE WOULD ALSO EXPECT THAT RTG SPOKESMEN MAY CONFIRM PUBLICLY THE FACT OF THIS MEETING AT SOME POINT.

5. TO SUPPORT PREVIOUS RTG STATEMENTS THAT DISCUSSIONS ARE CONTINUING, IT WAS ALSO AGREED TO CONSIDER THE NOVEMBER 27 MEETING THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE CURRENT DISCUSSIONS ON FORCE LEVELS WHICH BEGAN WITH THE HIGHLY PUBLICIZED MEETING ON AUGUST 24 AND FOLLOW-UP SESSION ON SEPTEMBER 4, AND INCLUDED SUBSEQUENT LOWER VISIBILITY MEETINGS. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS NOT BEEN REPRESENTED AT ANY OF THE SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN COMUSMACTHAI AND/OR POMIL COUNSELOR AND GENERAL KRIANGSAK ON FORCE LEVELS.
KINTNER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FORCE & TROOP LEVELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BANGKO18559
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973116/aaaaaegm.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Dec-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <28-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US FORCE LEVELS IN THAILAND
TAGS: MARR, TH, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005